

PATENT
Atty. Docket No. 20103/A00424

REMARKS

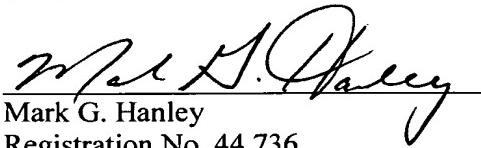
In the official action dated November 30, 2004, independent claims 1, 15, 18, and 19 were rejected as obvious over Sizer, II et al. (US 6,021,324) in view of Gorman (US 6,141,356). However, Gorman (US 6,141,356) is not available as prior art against this application under 35 U.S.C. 103(c). In particular, because Gorman was commonly owned by the assignee of the present application at the time of the invention, Gorman cannot be used to render any of the claims in this application obvious. The applicants have attached hereto evidence of the common ownership of this application at the time of invention and Gorman.

Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request a favorable action on the merits. If there are any remaining issues in this application, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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September 8, 2006